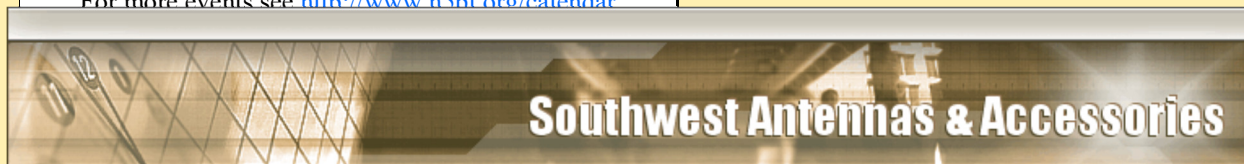


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	<h1>Local Oscillator</h1>	
Mesilla Valley Radio Club		

This is a pdf file. It will print easily. A free pdf file reader is at <http://www.adobe.com>

Current Events			Table of Contents
Date	Event	Time	Club Roster VE Testing Bataan Memorial Death March Unclassified Ads Interesting Gadgets Club Meeting Minutes Board Minutes Treasurer Report Club Location Club Officers Membership Application
Sat	Informal at Cracker Barrel	6:00 AM	
M, W, F	Informal Wal-Mart (West)	10:00 AM	
Wed	MVRC Net 146.64	6:45 PM	
April 4	Builder's Group Club House	7PM	
April 1	Coffee Club House	8AM	
April 1	Business meeting Club House	9 AM	
April 6	Board Meeting Club House	7 PM	
April 8	NM QSO Party Club House	Come by	
April 11	Linux -SIG Club House	7 PM	
April 18	Builders Group Club House	7 PM	
April 25	Linux - SIG Club House	7 PM	
May 6	Bean Feed Club House	7 AM	

For more events see <http://www.n5hl.org/calendar>



**Southwest Antennas & Accessories**

More information at <http://swantenna.com>



## KC7VHS Running a Testing Session

### The Articles for This Month

#### The Club Roster

The latest club roster is available. If you click on the following link, it will appear as a pdf file.

URL <http://mvrcMem201707.pdf>

It is recommended that you print it out and keep it handy at your operating position. It consists of two main parts. The first lists all club members in alphabetical order. The second part lists all club members by their call signs. The roster also contains other information such as class of license and some contact information.

#### VE Testing

K5XY

The photograph above shows a recent license testing conducted at the club hours. It is a non-trivial effort on the part of the club to run a testing session. Perry Steinman, KC7VHS, who organizes the testing sessions, has a lot of work

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to do. There are a lot of required actions which he must take to conduct a successful session. Many of those actions seem like picky busy work but all are designed so that the tests are fair and the results are in every way legitimate.

In any out-sourced testing situation, the temptation to bend a few corners or to show favoritism is great, the greater the more often the tests are given. Hence there is a lot of paper work and multiple checks on the process.

There are a lot of forms to fill out, protocol on the handling of the forms to be followed, and people to monitor the operation and the results of the tests. In this case three examiners, who themselves had to pass qualifying tests, were required to monitor, grade, and attest to the correctness of the results. It takes some effort just to assemble the required number of monitors. It is easy to try to shorten the effort. As an example of the picky rules necessary to ensure that the testing results are legitimate, consider the fact that these qualified monitors are required to wear identification tags, look at the photo ids of those taking the tests, grade each of the results, and sign several forms.

When one of Perry's monitors had to cancel at the last minute, he had to call around to get an immediate replacement. He had to organize lots of paper work and send to the ARRL headquarters a complete report on the testing session. All this he accomplished with only a minimum effort required of the those taking the test and the monitors.

In this case, two people were being tested, one for the tech license and the other for an upgrade. One passed, one did not.

Money is involved because effort is not cheap. The club could add some expenses to the basic fee, but it does not. The club members donate their time and other expenses, but the club did in this case, gain a member from this service.

## Bataan Memorial March

KD5OHA

The 75th Anniversary Bataan Memorial Death March took place on Sunday March 19. Seven thousand and twenty-two people signed up. The first full Marathon runner (26.2 miles) crossed the finish line in two Hours and forty-eight minutes. There were 4 actual injuries that had to be Medivac out. The March officially started 7 A.M. The last person crossed the finish line at 22.12.

## Unclassified Ads

Hy-Gain TH6-DXX Super Thunderbird 6-element HF beam, used, good condition, with all parts and manual, \$350. Bill Johnston, K5ZI, 575-382-7804, K5ZI@arrl.net

## Interesting Gadgets I wish I Had Time For

Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

I'm on a lot of mailing lists and participate in a bunch of amateur radio forums. As a result, I see a lot of interesting gadgets that guys are buying or are thinking about buying. Here are three of the latest that look interesting to me. I wish I had time (and money) to purchase all of these and try them out.

### Android antenna analyzer

On Reddit ([https://www.reddit.com/r/amateurradio/comments/60nnp1/finally\\_got\\_my\\_mini60\\_ebay\\_antenna\\_analyzer\\_time/](https://www.reddit.com/r/amateurradio/comments/60nnp1/finally_got_my_mini60_ebay_antenna_analyzer_time/)), some of the guys have been talking about the Mini60 Antenna Analyzer (<http://www.ebay.com/itm/CW-USB-Interface-Cable-WINKEYER-compatible-3-5mm-plug-/132121085623?hash=item1ec307c6b7:g:up8AAOSw241YeTei>). Its frequency range is 1 – 60MHz, but the cool thing about this device is that you can use it standalone with the built-in LCD display or with some software ([http://www.jtelectronics.co.nz/information\\_links/MINI60/Add-Bluetooth-Module-To-MINI60-Antenna-Analyser.htm](http://www.jtelectronics.co.nz/information_links/MINI60/Add-Bluetooth-Module-To-MINI60-Antenna-Analyser.htm)) and a tablet with a Bluetooth interface to get fancy frequency vs. SWR plots. See <http://www.kb6nu.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/mini60-ant-analyzer.jpg> for a photo of the Mini60 Antenna Analyzer being used with an Android tablet.

Of course, this is made in China, but how can you beat the price? It costs \$112 shipped.

### Multi-functional component tester

Here's another marvel of Chinese engineering and manufacture – a smart component tester ([http://www.banggood.com/3\\_5inch-Colorful-Display-Multi-functional-TFT-Backlight-Transistor-Tester-p-1083042.html](http://www.banggood.com/3_5inch-Colorful-Display-Multi-functional-TFT-Backlight-Transistor-Tester-p-1083042.html)) for only \$30, shipped. It identifies and characterizes NPN and PNP transistors, capacitors, resistors, diodes (including Zener diodes), N-channel and P-channel MOSFET, IGBT, JFET, triacs, and batteries.

This isn't the first smart component tester to hit the market, but the unique thing about this unit is that it has a graphical display that not only identifies the type of component that you've connected to it, but also draws the schematic symbol of the part. You can see a video of this tester in action at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=07FH6tjzwWg>.

### Make your Raspberry Pi into a desktop PC

Newark/element 14 will soon start selling a kit of part that will make it easier to turn your Raspberry Pi into a desktop PC ([https://www.element14.com/community/docs/DOC-83477?CMP=e-email-SEPO-210317-e14PI&et\\_cid=28941683&et\\_rid=1231362216&cmp=](https://www.element14.com/community/docs/DOC-83477?CMP=e-email-SEPO-210317-e14PI&et_cid=28941683&et_rid=1231362216&cmp=)). The kit includes:

- Intelligent and Safe Power Controller
- Interface to connect mSATA SSD (upto 1TB)
- Real Time Clock to keep track of time
- Heat Sink
- Enclosure

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They don't list the price just yet, but this might be what I need to actually make use of the Raspberry Pi 3 I bought several months ago.

If you have one of these gadgets, or buy one in the future, please let me know how you like it. I'll put your review up on my blog, so that everyone can benefit from your experience.

## Monthly Club Meeting

**04 March 2017 (Saturday)**

**Monthly Meeting of the Mesilla Valley Radio Club**

**MVRC clubhouse doors opened for coffee and donuts:** 8 a.m.

**Total Attendance:** 34

**New Members:** Martin Dias KF5ZYD and Steve Barkes KG5RRX

**Meeting called to order:** at ~9:00 a.m. by club president Sven Breden, *K5SHB*.

This month, we had a project instead of a speaker. Cash Olsen, KD5SSJ, distributed kits of electronic parts, and the members worked in teams to build an oscillator circuit on a breadboard. After completion, Cash connected a power supply and oscilloscope to each device to check its operation. It was a fun exercise.

### **Business Discussion/Reports Included:**

Rob Truitt *KE5OFK* reported that the club's repeaters were all working normally.

After the meeting, he and Dave Hassall WA5DJJ plan to make software upgrades the Broad-Band Ham Net.

Bob Bennett *AD5LJ* said that there were no problems to report on the clubhouse.

He also asked for equipment donations for our upcoming Bean Feed event.

Cash Olsen *KD5SSJ* mentioned that he was looking for 2017 presenters. Cash reminded the membership of the Tuesday night's Builders Group meetings at 7:00 p.m.

George Kopp *KD5OHA* informed the membership that he had enough volunteers for the Bataan Road Race on Sunday 19 March. He also reminded everyone of his Wednesday night net at 6:45 p.m. and Derrick Jordon 6-meter net on Monday evening at 6:45.

Earl Drexler *N5TMT* is MVRC's event coordinator. He passed around an example of the QSO card for the upcoming Bataan Road Race. He reminded everyone of the upcoming events such as NM QSO Party, Bean Feed, and Field Day.

Furman Smith *KF5KHL* MVRC treasurer, gave us a financial report and informed the membership that four fraudulent withdrawals had been made from the club's checking account. So, our Wells Fargo bank account had been placed in lock-down. Furman planned to close our W. F. accounts and move our money to



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another bank.

MVRC secretary, Howard Brewington *KJ5NJ*, reported that he'd been working on the club's 2017 roster. We now have 98 people on the roster, but about 28 had not paid 2017 dues. Howard also mentioned, as stated in our bylaws, new members that paid late in 2016 can pay prorated dues for 2017.

Perry Steinman *KC7VHS* mentioned that there would be a VE testing session at the Las Cruces Convention Center on 01 April. Contact Perry for details.

Harvey Baldwin, *W0RUG*, had questions about the PA system that he donated to the club. He discovered that some of its components were missing. However, he was in the process of locating another system.

Sven Breden *K5SHB* said that he and Furman were in the process of moving the club's money to another bank, viz. Bank of the West on Telshor. He also reminded officers and board members of the upcoming board meeting on Thursday 09 March at 7:00 p.m. All club members are welcome to attend.

**MVRC Meeting adjourned:** 10:36 a.m.

**Meeting minutes recorded by Club Secretary:** Howard Brewington *KJ5NJ*

## Monthly Board Meeting

09 March 2017 (Thursday)

Board Meeting of the Mesilla Valley Radio Club

**Meeting Location:** MVRC clubhouse

### **Officers and Board Members Present:**

Sven Breden (President) *K5SHB*, Howard Brewington (Secretary) *KJ5NJ*, Furman Smith (Treasurer) *KF5KHL*, Alex Burr *K5XY*, George Kopp *KD5OHA*, and Earl Drexler *N5TMT*.

**Visitors Present:** None

**Meeting called to order:** 7:03 p.m. by club president Sven Breden.

### **Business Discussion**

- Alex Burr mentioned that he needs articles for the Local Oscillator, and he'd contact Tim Nuccio about an article after the New Mexico QSO Party on 08 April. Alex reminded George that he'd be interested in Bataan Road Race photos for the Local Oscillator.
- George Kopp *KD5OHA* reported that he had enough volunteers for the Bataan Death March Road Race, which is scheduled for 19 March. And, he asked Alex to post details of Derricks Jordon's 6-meter net on the club's webpage. George discovered a couple of errors in last month's minutes. "The Get-up and Go Road Race" was stated to happen on 09 April, but the correct date is 29 April. And, Field Day is June 24

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-25; it's not 03 June as stated by mistake in the February minutes. Howard was not surprise by the typos George found, but he was VERY surprised that anyone actually reads meeting minutes. :^)

- Earl Drexler, MVRC Event Coordinator, N5TMT passed around a flyer and QSL cards of the upcoming events. Earl reported that he had a logging software upgrade for Bataan, and the event would utilize several bands including the club's 146.76 repeater. On 08 April, The New Mexico QSO Party is scheduled. Contact Earl or Tim Nuccio, NM9K, for details. For the NM QSO Party, QSL cards will be sent to hams if they send us a card. Earl also mentioned the upcoming Bean Feed, Field Day, and JOTA events. He plans to post flyers in business around Cruces to advertise such events.
- Howard Brewington, club secretary, reported that we now have 101 people on the club roster, but ~25 had not renewed their membership for 2017. Howard made a motion that we do not accept any more projection TVs as Bean Feed items; all present agreed. Howard asked about the club's PA system and volunteered to look into a system for the club's meeting room.
- Sven Breden, club president, K5SHB reported that MVRC bank accounts at Wells Fargo had been closed, and the club's money was moved to Bank of the West on Telshor. Sven also reported that Erik A. Tristano, student at NMSU, received the MVRC scholarship fund. Erik sent the radio club a very nice letter of appreciation. Sven also said that he'd challenge the club's property taxes in April.
- Furman Smith, MVRC treasurer, passed out financial reports for January and February 2017, which detailed the fraudulent withdrawals from the club's checking account. Earl Drexler made a motion that we only keep enough funds in our checking account to pay monthly expenditures; all present agreed. Furman said that he was working on other housekeeping tasks such as the club's not-for-profit IRS tax form/statement.

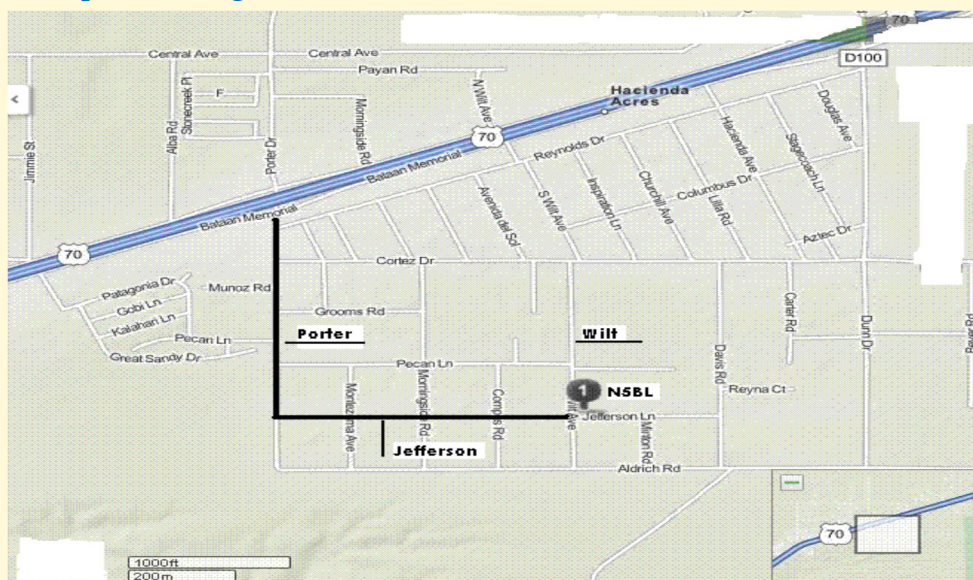
**Board Meeting adjourned:** 8:30 pm

**Meeting minutes recorded by Club Secretary:** Howard J. Brewington

Board meetings are open to the entire membership; please feel free to join us.

## CLUB INFORMATION

The MVRC Clubhouse is located at the intersection of Wilt and Jefferson. To find the clubhouse, set your destination on your GPS receiver as 32 degrees 22.961 minutes and -106 degrees 41.44 minutes. If you don't own a GPS, take the Porter exit near the firehouse on US 70. It is about 5 miles east from the I 25 interchange. Go south on Porter until you come to Jefferson. There turn left toward the mountains and go to Wilt. You will see the beam on the corner. The treasurer would be delighted to receive your contribution for landscaping and furnishing. More information at <http://n5bl.org>



Officers				
Office	Name	Call	Phone	E-Mail
President	Sven Breden	K5SHB	655-0414	<a href="mailto:sven.breden@gmail.com">sven.breden@gmail.com</a>
Secretary	Howard Brewington	KJ5NJ	575-496-8616	<a href="mailto:comet_brewington@msn.com">comet_brewington@msn.com</a>
Treasurer	Furman Smith	KF5KHL	382-5982	<a href="mailto:smithf@zianet.com">smithf@zianet.com</a>
Board Members				
Education	Cash Olsen	KD5SSJ	382-1917	<a href="mailto:kd5ssj@arrl.net">kd5ssj@arrl.net</a>
Clubhouse	Bob Bennett	AD5LJ	382-0148	<a href="mailto:rpbennett1@comcast.net">rpbennett1@comcast.net</a>
Newsletter	Alex. Burr	K5XY	522-2528	<a href="mailto:k5xy@arrl.net">k5xy@arrl.net</a>
Repeater	Robert Truitt	KE5OFK	649-4173	<a href="mailto:robhtruitt@zianet.com">robhtruitt@zianet.com</a>
Commo	George Kopp	KD5OHA	649-5903	<a href="mailto:geokd5oha@yahoo.com">geokd5oha@yahoo.com</a>
Special	Earl Drexler	N5TMT	639-0556	<a href="mailto:earld7@yahoo.com">earld7@yahoo.com</a>



### JOIN THE MESILLA VALLEY RADIO CLUB

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

*If you want confirmation that your payment was received and processed, please include your email address*

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ PO Box# \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

To join the Mesilla Valley Radio Club or renew your membership, please complete this form and print or cut out. Send it to **“Treasurer, MVRC, PO Box 1443, Las Cruces, NM 88004”** with annual dues (\$35 single, \$45 family)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Method of payment: Check No. \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Call Sign(S) \_\_\_\_\_ Family Membership Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

License Class (E, A, G, T, N) \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL Member? (Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_

Are You a ARRL Volunteer Examiner (Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to be added to the MVRC reflector (email information system)? \_\_\_\_\_

**Interests**

Computer \_\_\_\_\_ Contests \_\_\_\_\_ Digital \_\_\_\_\_ Elmer \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency Communications \_\_\_\_\_

Field Day \_\_\_\_\_ Packet \_\_\_\_\_ Programs \_\_\_\_\_ Public Service \_\_\_\_\_ Publicity \_\_\_\_\_ RFI \_\_\_\_\_

Repeater \_\_\_\_\_ Social \_\_\_\_\_ License Classes \_\_\_\_\_ Teach Licensing Classes \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer Examiner \_\_\_\_\_ QRSS \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Comments**